MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BRIEFING SESSION
25 June, 1975

AM
9:00 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Expiration of Appointment of Mr. Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr. to the Board of Architectural Consultants for Old Georgetown.

B. Proposed Sculpture for First Division Reservation, Ellipse.

PROJECT BRIEFINGS

A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 75-191, 3509 M Street, N.W., Six New Rowhouses.

2. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Building Front & Signs.

2. Appendix 2.

B. Smithsonian Institution

1. National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance - Resubmission.

2. National Zoological Park, Beaver Valley Area Exhibits.

C. Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Branch Bank, National Bank of Washington, Bolling/Anacostia Tract.

BRIEFING SESSION
25 June, 1975

D. Redevelopment Land Agency

Flagship Parking Deck, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission.

E. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Union Station National Visitors' Center, Flags of States and Territories around Columbus Plaza - Final Plans.

2. Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue & Ellicott Street, N.W., Central Sculptural Element - Resubmission.

3. Washington Monument Visitors' Center, Material Sample.

4. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park, Planning and Design Concepts.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
25 June, 1975

AM
10:45 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 30 July, 1975
17 September, 1975

B. Minutes of May, 1975 meeting.

C. D.C. Bill No. 1-85, a Proposal to Permit Advertising on the Backs of Metrobuses.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

11:00 *A. National Park Service, National Capital Parks*

1. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park, Planning and Design Concepts.

2. Union Station National Visitors' Center, Flags of States and Territories around Columbus Plaza - Final Plans.

3. Washington Monument Visitors' Center, Material Samples.

4. Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Street, N.W., Central Sculptural Element - Resubmission.

11:30 *B. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development*

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 75-191, 3509 M Street, N.W., Six New Rowhouses.

2. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Building Front & Signs.

2. Appendix 2.

25 June, 1975

11:45 *C.* *Smithsonian Institution*

1. National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance - Resubmission.

2. National Zoological Park, Beaver Valley Area Exhibits.

12:00 *D.* *Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command*

Branch Bank, National Bank of Washington, Bolling/Anacostia Tract.

12:15 *E.* *Redevelopment Land Agency*

Flagship Parking Deck, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission.

INSPECTION

12:30 *Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Site, West Potomac Park.*

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BRIEFING SESSION
25 June, 1975

The briefing session convened at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
	Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
	Hon. Jane O. Dart
	Hon. Kevin Roche
	Hon. Chloethiel Woodard Smith
	Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
	Hon. George A. Weymouth
Staff Present:	Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
	Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
	Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
	Miss Nancy H. Ferguson
	Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
	Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
	Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher
	Mr. David L. Miller
National Capital Planning Commission Staff Present:	Mr. Edward Hromanick

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Expiration of Appointment of Mr. Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr. to the Board of Consultants for the Old Georgetown Act. Three architects serve as consultants to the Commission of Fine Arts in administration of the Old Beorgetown Act. Mr. Vanderpool, whose appointment had expired, was reappointed by the Commission unanimously to serve an additional term. Since two new members of the Board had already been appointed in 1975, it was agreed that extending Mr. Vanderpool's expertixe and experience for another term would provide continuity for the Board.

Exhibit A.

B. Proposed Sculpture for the First Division Reservation, Ellipse. The Secretary showed several photographs of sculpture by John Chamberlain proposed to the National Park Service by the Corcoran Gallery to be located temporarily on the Ellipse near the First Division Memorial. The artist works in a medium utilizing junked automobile parts pressed together. The Commission suggested that placement of controversial

sculpture in juxtaposition with the Memorial, the White House, and Executive Office Building was not appropriate, regardless of the philosophy or excellence of the proposed pieces. Since no official request for the Commission's action had been made by the Park Service, no official action was taken.

II. PROJECT BRIEFING

A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 75-191, 3509 M Street, N.W., Six New Row Houses. The Assistant Secretary reminded the Commission of their previous review of a proposal to build several new townhouses on the rear of the Prospect House property at 35th, Prospect, and M Streets, N.W. (OG 75-139). The Commission, the Goergetown Board, and the Joint Committee on Landmarks had recommended against the first proposal because it demolished the stable of Prospect House and a portion of the scenic retaining wall facing M Street. At that time it was suggested that any new development be located along 35th Street, rather than M Street, and that any such scheme include preservation of the retaining wall and old outbuilding. The revised scheme before the Commission showed five or six new row houses along 35th Street with the retention of the retaining wall and stable building. The Assistant Secretary reported that the Georgetown Board had examined the scheme finding that it was far vetter for the historic district than the previous scheme had been. He stated that the Board had suggested further exploration before deciding on a final scheme. They had specifically suggested that an interior court be studied which could eliminate most of the curb cuts and retain a stone garden wall along 35th Street. The President of the Georgetown Citizens Association had examined the scheme along 35th Street, and stated that he saw "no problem."

The Commission examined photographs and drawings indicating the scheme along 35th Street, They found no objection to the proposed scheme, but supported the position of the Board asking for further study. Ideally the Commission and the Board felt that having no additional houses on the property would be the best alternative, but that the present porposal was moderate and would preclude later higher density development on the site. The Commission was obliged to review the design in this case since subdivision and use are not within the Commission's jurisdiction.

2. Appendix I. The Commission examined the appendix.

BRIEFING SESSION
25 June, 1975

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Building Front and Signs. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and a model of a proposal to convert the lower level of the Warner Theatre Building to use as a commercial enterprise rpoviding visitors services for the Bicentennial. The feature would service the hotel and travel industries with package theatre tours of Washington, etc. The proposal included removal of some non-original discordant elements of the building and applying a smooth cement finish, two new entrances and very large graphics on the exterior of the building. The Commission examined the material finding that the proposal would only cover a small part of the exterior of this large building and clean up some unsightly conditions now existing on the corner.

2. Appendix 2. The Commission examined the appendix.

B. Smithsonian Institution

1. National Air and Space Museum. Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance - Resubmission. The Secretary presented photographs and a drawing showing the proposal by sculptor Lippold for the Air and Space Museum. A revision of the height of the starburst design examined at the May 1975 meeting of the Commission resulted in the same design reduced in scale so that the starburst element would be between the lower and higher cornice elements of the museum. Only the tip would protrude above the upper roof of the building. Later in the day the Commission would have the opportunity to examine the site and see a balloon flown at the height and location of the proposed sculpture.

2. National Zoological Park, Beaver Valley Area Exhibits. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing a series of exhibit areas for beavers, otters, and sea lions which would be located in the place designated by the Master Plan. The Assistant Secretary noted that the existing area was particularly run down and that the new walks were to go on the existing locations with a minimum of regrading or tree removal. The landscaping of the area was to be upgraded and the exhibits, which were concrete with dry moats and underwater viewing areas, would be surrounded with sitting and walking areas in accord with the graphics-furniture plans prepared for the Zoo. He pointed out, however, that exact plans for the details of the various walls, railings, and built-in benches had not been developed yet and that the Commission had no way to really know what the finished product would look like. The Chairman suggested that since the Master Plan compliance and suggested moderate landscape treatment there was little for the

Commission to disapprove, but rather that it would be desirable to see further details as they could be developed. Mr. Stone agreed with this stating that it really was difficult to know what the area would look like until details of the walls, walks, and railings could be examined. Further discussion was held later in the meeting.

C. Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Branch Bank, National Bank of Washington, Bolling/Anacostia Air Base. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings for a one-floor brick bank building conforming to the Master Plan and base material and color regulations. The Commission examined the drawings finding the design pleasant, simple, and appropriate to the base.

D. Redevelopment Land Agency

Flagship Parking Deck, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission. The Secretary presented a series of schemes for accommodating the Commission's previous questions about this parking structure. At the first viewing, the Members had velt that the upper parapet of the garage was too low and would expose the fronts and bottoms of automoviles parked on axis with one of the main waterfront entry routes. Two alternatives had been prepared to show planting along the parapet in one scheme, and a heavy wooden plank fence on the other. The boards of this proposed fence would be diagonal, of heavy timber, and would pick up some of the pier character of the waterfront. The members favored the fence scheme since there was almost no way that plants in a parapet planter would survive in the Washington climate without more maintenance than was likely. Further discussion was held later in the meeting.

E. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Union Station National Visitors' Center, Flags of States and Territories around Columbus Plaza, Final Plans. The Assistant Secretary presented a letter from the National Park Service indicating that the flagpoles had been located according to the advice of the Commission and that all highway signage, etc. would be kept away from the poles. The presentation was to confirm that those provisos given by the Commission of Fine Arts in connection with approving the concept would be carried out. Mr. Stone suggested that the Commission recommend that the flags be large enough for the spaces around them. Further discussion was held later at the meeting.

2. Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott

Street, N.W., Central Sculptural Element. The Secretary presented a bust on a pedestal of General Muhlenberg. The Commission had examined a smaller bust at a previous meeting finding that there could be some questions about the sculptor's ability with this type of figure and material. Mr. Weymouth suggested that the figure seemed foreshortened because of the design of the pedestal. If the pedestal was to reflect a pulpit, the pulpit should be long enough to contain the body and legs of the General. As it was, Mr. Weymouth found the pedestal height a bit too short. The rest of the members agreed. Further discussion was held later in the meeting.

3. Washington Monument Visitors' Center, Material Sample. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and material samples for this temporary facility to be located near the base of the Washington Monument at Independence Avenue and 15th Street. The members had no objection to the buff colored samples with bronze glass and metal.

4. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park, Planning and Design Concepts. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs of the design by Lawrence Halprin for the Roosevelt Memorial, to be located in West Potomac Park between the Tidal Basin and the Potomac River and the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials. The site which had been selected by Congress and the design which had been approved by the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission represented a series of sculptural walls and pools forming a 1400-foot walk along the south side of the Tidal Basin. A 400-foot-long entrance across the park from the River side would lead visitors from the minibus drop off point through a rose garden and visitors' center with theatre to the long walk. A large bermed mound would back up the sculpture wall to the south toward the existing retained athletic fields forming a natural bleacher, sound absorber of grass, to screen the memorial landscape from aircraft approaching nearby National Airport. At the west end of the Tidal Basin a large crescent-shaped berm would sweep from the Memorial to Independence Avenue.

The Secretary gave some of the general background on the Memorial as it had been reviewed by both the National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee and the Joint Committee on Landmarks without serious objection to any feature except the crescent-shaped berm. He also described the main features of the scheme, indicating that the concept had been shown to the Commission at a previous meeting. The Commission spent some time examining all of the illustrative material with the Chairman noting that different sculptors would be used for several parts of the memorial. This raised some objection from various members of the Commission. Mr. Roche said that the design in his opinion was simply

BRIEFING SESSION
25 June, 1975

too large, though the concept may be good.

The members generally agreed that the crescent-shaped element would block the vista of the Jefferson Memorial from Independence Avenue across the Tidal Basin. There was also agreement that the technique of treating stone panels with some type of newspaper image could be most successful if done by a single hand and then in some subtle technique. General agreement included the feeling that the scale was excessive. Further discussion was held later in the meeting after the members had an opportunity to hear Mr. Halprin's presentation.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

June 27, 1975

Dear Wy:

The Commission was glad to learn that you are willing to shoulder the burdens of continuing as a member of our Board of Architectural Advisors for Old Georgetown. We view this work as an important part of the Commission's role and particularly appreciate your service at a time when continuity is an important factor.

Accordingly, I am happy to let you know that the Commission reappointed you to another term of three years at its meeting on June 25, 1975.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr.
Faulkner, Fryer and Vanderpool
2000 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Exhibit A.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
25 June, 1975

The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m. at the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
	Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
	Hon. Jane O. Dart
	Hon. Kevin Roche
	Hon. Chloethiel Woodard Smith
	Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
	Hon. George A. Weymouth
Staff Present:	Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
	Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
	Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
	Miss Nancy H. Ferguson
	Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
	Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
	Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher
	Mr. David L. Miller
National Capital Planning Commission Staff Present:	Mr. Edward Hromanick

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 30 July, 1975
17 September, 1975

B. Minutes of May, 1975 meeting were approved.

c. D.C. Bill No. I-85, a proposal to permit advertising on the backs of Metrobuses. The Secretary presented the Commission's long history of opposing advertising in public space, stating that since the 1930's all billborads, bus-side, taxi, and side-wall advertising had been discouraged in an effort to lend dignity to the National Capital. He pointed out that there are other distinguished cities which have been less fortunate in their efforts to control signage, and that the general trend has been to attempt to achieve Washington's sign code. He asked that the Commission confirm their previous prohibition of exterior bus signs, which they unanimously did.

25 June, 1975

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, West Potomac Park, Planning and Design Concepts. The project was represented by Mr. Eugene Keogh, Chairman of the FDR Memorial Commission, James Rowe, member of the Commission, and Charlotte Hoskins, staff of the Commission. Messers Ed Peetz, Joseph Ronsisvalle, and John Parsons represented the National Park Service. Lawrence Halprin and Dai Williams, his associate, were present as the consultant designers.

Mr. Keogh first told of the FDR Memorial Commission's approval of the design being presented to the Commission of Fine Arts. He traced the history of the legislation and the efforts of the FDR Commission through several designs and Congressional efforts to the present. Then he introduced Mr. Halprin.

Mr. Halprin made a presentation of the concepts of this design discussing some of the details and their reasons. He traced the desires of the McMillan Commission to have some type of feature at this site reviewing that body's "kite" plan and discussing the desirability of retaining and developing vistas to the other monuments and memorials visible from the site. He addressed himself to existing items on the site and how the proposal would relate to them.

The Chairman told of the Commission of Fine Arts' concern with the scale of the scheme. Mr. Halprin indicated that this could be gives some study in the interest of reducing the size. The Chairman also questioned the crescent-shaped element to the west of the Tidal Basin, asking if it was an integral and necessary part of the design. Mr. Halprin indicated that he was aware of some community opposition to this feature and that it had hardly been expected to be an integral feature of the design, but merely a way of treating the removal of the existing road in that area and providing a framework for a possible future restaurant in that area. The Chairman indicated that the Commission of Fine Arts was suggesting elimination of that feature to determine if further studies would be more acceptable. Mr. Halprin indicated that this would be possible. Further the Chairman suggested the Commission of Fine Arts' concern over the use of multiple sculptors for the Memorial and that a very subtle form of newspaper in stone art would be difficult to handle in too literal and diverse a way. Mr. Halprin indicated that he would like to reserve much of the discussion of the sculpture to a later time since he had not thought it out yet himself and there was plenty of time to explore the exact techniques

with the Commission of Fine Arts.

Messers Halprin and Keogh asked the Commission specifically if their suggestions meant that the design was disapproved. The Chairman indicated that the design concept as presented had been approved pending a satisfactory scale study and some rethinking about some of the Memorial details. He indicated that the Commission would be meeting again on July 30, 1975, and would be happy to review any revision studies at that time. He also indicated that the Commission was going to examine the site after the meeting to have the best possible feeling for the existing topography.

EXHIBIT B

2. Union Station National Visitors' Center, Flags of States and Territories around Columbus Plaza, Final Plans. The Chairman announced to Park Service representatives present that the Commission was in receipt and pleased by the indication that all street furniture had been coordinated with the flagpoles to insure a dignified setting.

EXHIBIT C

3. Washington Monument Visitors' Center, Material Sample. The Chairman indicated that the Commission had had an opportunity to examine the material samples submitted by the National Park Service and found them compatible with the building design as previously approved. The Commission unanimously approved the materials.

EXHIBIT D

4. Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Street, N.W., Central Sculptural Element. The project was represented by Mr. Robert Romanowski of the National Park Service and Ms. Caroline Hufford, the sculptor. The Chairman indicated the Commission's approval with reservations. Ms. Hufford described the missing features of the pulpit and pedestal of the piece and indicated that she would be doing further work with a live model. Mr. Weymouth indicated that he felt the pulpit height foreshortened the figure too much. Ms. Hufford indicated that that would be studied. The Chairman thanked Ms. Hufford for her presentation indicating unanimous approval of the model provided the mentioned details were worked out. EXHIBIT E

B. <u>D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development</u>

<u>Old Georgetown Act</u>

1. OG 75-191, 3509 M Street, N.W., Six New Townhouses. Mr. Reid Dunn, the designer, presented the project. The Chairman indicated

that the Commission had had an opportunity to examine the drawings and were familiar with the site and the history of the project. He also told Mr. Dunn that they were aware of the Georgetown Board's action. Mr. Dunn told the Commission of his efforts to interpret previous actions on the project and to come up with a simple solution to adding houses to the property without removing the outbuilding, damaging the environment of the Prospect House, or disrespecting the historic district. Mr. Dunn said that he had investigated the Georgetown Board's suggestions that he study a courtyard type of scheme. He stated that he had made such studies and that they were unsuccessful. The Chairman indicated that the Commission had no trouble with the rowhouse approach, but that they were supporting the Board's desire to explore further site studies. The Commission unanimously approved the Board's request for additional site studies.

2. Appendix 1, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Building Front and Signs. The Commission announced their unanimous approval of the design for remodelling this building and supported the applicant's desire for an oversized sign.

2. Appendix 2, approved.

C. Smithsonian Institution

1. National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance, Resubmission. Action would be deferred until the Commission had an opportunity to visit the site.

2. National Zoological Park, Beaver Valley Area Exhibits. The project was represented by Dr. T. H. Reed, Mr. N. C. Melun, and Mr. R. Engle of the National Zoo and Mr. Avery C. Faulkner, the consultant architect. Dr. Reed described the functions and master plan compliance of the Beaver Valley design. He stated that the design fulfilled all of the Zoo's requirements.

The Chairman asked Mr. Faulkner if it would be possible to review all of the details of railings, furniture, etc. as they were developed to give the Commission an idea of what the exhibits would actually look like to the pedestrian user. The Commission's unanimous approval was given to the preliminary design. *EXHIBIT F*

25 June, 1975

D. Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Branch Bank, National Bank of Washington, Bolling-Anacostia Air Base. The Chairman announced the Commission's unanimous approval of the building design. EXHIBIT G

E. Redevelopment Land Agency

Flagship Parking Deck, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission. The project was represented by Mr. Stanley Sherman of the RLA and the architect, Mr. Bierks, and the owner's representative, Mr. Joe Edwards. The Chairman asked Mr. Sherman to explain what RLA felt about the revised studies. Mr. Sherman responded that the RLA would go along with either the planter or fence schemes as presented. The Chairman said that the Commission in that case would unanimously approve the scheme with a wooden fence parapet. EXHIBIT H

III. INSPECTIONS

A. National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for the North Entrance. The Commission was met on site by Messers Mike Collins and James Dean of the museum. The sculptor, Mr. Lippold, was there as well.

After an unsuccessful attempt to simulate the starburst location with a weather balloon, the Commission walked out onto the Mall and examined the sightlines of the building and several drawings on photographs depicting the sculpture in place.

The members felt that the design as proposed was far superior to the original, since the height was no longer overpowering for the site, given the extremely thin cross-section of the vertical element relative to the Mall scale. They were willing to approve the preliminary and did unanimously, provided a structural section could be mocked up and submitted, and that the Commission could review the working drawings. EXHIBIT I

B. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Site, West Potomac Park. The members and the staff went to the site and attempted to walk off the memorial. There was some problem in knowing the exact location of the various elements since they were not marked on the ground. It was anticipated that with partial timing that traversing the 400-foot entry path and 1400-foot-long walk of the Memorial would take about 20 minutes each way. The Commission observed the existing tree planting along the Tidal Basin and the location of the roadway proposed for

removal. The various vista points were also located.

The sense of the inspection meeting was that the design as proposed was far too large and would obliterate more of the site than needed, since the site was then one of the more scenic parts of the city.

The meeting adjourned at about 2:00 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

27 June, 1975

Dear Jack,

I'd like to report to you the Commission of Fine Arts' action on the design for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial that was reviewed at our meeting on June 25, 1975.

As you know, this is the first time the Commission has had the opportunity to comment in detail on Lawrence Halprin's proposal, although we were shown essentially the same design on April 16, 1975, a fact that we appreciate since it gave us ample time to consider the concept thoroughly.

The Commission's primary conclusion is that the memorial is oversized. Even though it technically covers less than the allowable acreage specified in the program given to the designer, the fact is that it seems to embrace a much more extensive area of the park. Even a casual comparison of the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials in plan with the proposed design will confirm this. The magnitude of the fourteen-hundred-foot wall extending some fifteen to twenty feet high is, by itself, a highly questionable element. Add to this the approach walkways, some additional four-hundred feet long, and the crescent-shaped berm extending around the entire west end of the Tidal Basin to Independence Avenue, and one is presented with an entire complex of enormous proportions. We find the resulting scale unacceptable.

Our second concern is the medium of the memorial itself. We accept the validity of establishing a series of visual images of President Roosevelt as the central theme of the memorial. It is, in our view, not an unreasonable way of conveying a contemporary sense of feeling and signfficance about the subject matter. A number of portrait images, combined with appropriate quotations

Exhibit B.

by the President, could constitute a very effective experience. We feel, however, that the portraits ought to be evocative rather than too literal, reflecting their basis in photographic images, and at all events unified in treatment and design. The employment of different artists to execute the various portraits and any three-dimensional, "Mount Rushmore" effect would, we feel, be a mistake.

On the positive side of the proposal, there are a number of commendable ideas. The conception of the design as essentially a landscape solution is one we highly approve. The retention of the major recreation spaces and the preservation of the existing landscaping along the Tidal Basin is also laudable. The use of water should be very effective, as can the whole approach to the experience of the visit. There are at the same time other aspects of the design that are possibly open to question, such as the circulation. We prefer, however, to focus primarily on our principal objection of scale. The memorial is oversized and should be reduced accordingly.

We are meeting again on July 30, 1975, and will be happy to consider the matter further at that time.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director, National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

JCB/CHA:nl

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

June 27, 1975

Dear Jack:

In addition to the FDR and Muhlenberg Memorials, there were three other items submitted by the Park Service that we reviewed at our meeting on June 25, and I thought we could cover the Commission's actions in a single report.

We were glad to get your letter setting forth the guidelines for the installation of the state flags around Union Station plaza. The Commission approved the guidelines, with the added recommendation that the flags will be substantial in size and appropriate to the scale of the plaza.

The material samples for the temporary Visitor's Center on the Washington Monument grounds were approved. We were pleased to note that the drawings now show the mechanical equipment on the roof entirely screened.

Finally, we considered the matter of a temporary display of John Chamberlain's crushed automobiles which the Corcoran Gallery requested permission to install in front of the First Division Memorial on the grounds surrounding the Ellipse. The Commission believes they would be viewed to better advantage in the formal setting of a gallery.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director, National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Exhibit C & D

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-6524

June 25, 1975

Dear Jack:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 25, 1975, reviewed a one-quarter scale maquette of the portrait bust for the Muhlenberg Memorial.

The sculpture was generally acceptable, with the recommendation that the relation of figure to the platform on which it is supposed to be standing be carefully studied in developing the full-scale model.

Carolyn Hufford, the sculptor, explained that she would have the advantage of an appropriate live model so these proportions could be carefully worked out.

We had not received Mr. Harbeson's drawings of the pedestal designs in time for the meeting, so we are unable to comment on them. However, we did note that there seemed to be some ambiguity between the concept of the base of the statue as a pedestal as compared to a pulpit or lectern. This should be clarified further.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director, National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Exhibit E.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

June 27, 1975

Dear Dr. Reed:

I'm glad to confirm our approval on June 25, 1975, of preliminary plans for the Beaver Valley displays at the National Zoo.

We would appreciate the opportunity to view the final designs before proceeding with the construction.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dr. Theodore Reed
Director
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20009

Exhibit F.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-7694

June 27, 1975

Dear Commander Briselden:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 25, 1975, reviewed the designs for the proposed structure for the National Bank of Washington on the Anacostia/Bolling tract.

The final site and building plans were approved.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Lt. Cdr. D.J. Briselden
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Chesapeake Division
Department of the Navy
Building 57, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20390

Exhibit G.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

June 27, 1975

Dear Mr. Mister:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 25, 1975, approved revised designs for an above-grade parking structure on Site P-1 in front of the Flagship Restaurant on the Southwest Waterfront.

We believe the added height provided by the diagonal wood screen will sufficiently conceal the parking on the upper deck. The entire ensemble can be further enhanced by planting the trees surrounding the deck on 15'0" centers. We suggest you explore using either pin oaks or willow oaks instead of the locusts as proposed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Melvin A. Mister
Executive Director
Redevelopment Land Agency
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20576

Exhibit H.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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Exhibit H.

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

June 27, 1975

Dear Mike:

We are grateful to you for your efforts to provide an indication of the proposed scale of the Lippold sculpture by means of a balloon on the occasion of our site inspection on June 25, 1975.

It is too bad that it had to burst before we could verify the full height of the proposed piece at a little less than one hundred feet, but I believe the Commission got enough of the effect to gauge the overall impact in relation to the building. On this basis, the Commission gives a conditional approval of the design, contingent on the approval of a mockup of a section of the shaft and the overall working drawings. There is substantial question in our minds about the effect some of the required structure might have, as well as a related question of finish material. The gold-colored metallic finish may be subject to warping or other deformation due to flexing of the shaft under certain load conditions like wind or ice.

Probably the best place to take this section for the shaft mockup would be at the intersection of the shaft and the starburst clusters. This is obviously a critical point, and if anything unusual is required, it will be required here. It should, however, be a long enough section to show the typical condition along the main part of the shaft.

The Commission meets again on July 30 and after than on September 17, 1975. We will be happy to look at the appropriate material at either time.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Michael Collins
Director, National Air & Space Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Exhibit H.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

25 June, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-183	3027 Q Street, N.W. Jean Pierre Sarfati	6'0" brick wall to enclose existing swimming pool area.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to location of swimming pool wall - request material sample. Design for new retaining walls, paving, and alteration of stairs and landscaping has not been submitted for review. Question the concept of this much paving in the vicinity of houses of this particular architectural merit. 5/29/75

184	3128 M Street, N.W. Mr. Broody	Modify front of building, for conversion to restaurant (resubmission refer to OG 75-176).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. See previous action, OG 75-176. Revised design does not have adequate architectural sensitivity for an important commercial building in a historic district. Suggest conference with Commission of Fine Arts staff or Old Georgetown Board at its June 18, 1975 meeting. 5/29/75

185	3124 M Street, N.W. Sylvia Morris	Modify front of building.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Character of proposed work is inadequate to design quality necessary within historic district. Suggest conference with Commission of Fine Arts staff or Old Georgetown Board at its June 18, 1975 meeting. 5/29/75

186	1115 30th Street, N.W. National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation	Addition of elevator and lobby/entrance - modification of interior office partitions.

ACTION: Issue permit. Suggest erection of material samples on site for CFA approval. 5/29/75

187	3006 Cambridge Place, N.W. Theodore Levine	Enclose existing two-story screen porch at rear with Pella brand windows and aluminum siding (resubmission refer to OG 75-174).

ACTION: Issue permit. 5/29/75

188	2700 P Street, N.W. Neil B. Siegel	Replace existing wood fence with new wood fence.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Stockade fence not recommended in this case. Frame house and prominent street location make a board fence more historically appropriate in this case. Suggest repair or reuse of parts of existing. 6/20/75

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

25 June, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-189	1035 31st Street, N.W. Yes! Incorporated	Addition of brick parking pad with adjoining brick planters and brick areaway at front of building; addition of two-story addition at rear of building with adjoining brick courtyard and brick wall.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. No objection to building addition and service ramp. Recommend against parking in front yard as shown. Suggest alternate parking arrangement or waiver of parking requirement as being in the best public interest. 6/20/75	
192	3213 Volta Place, N.W. Jane Becker	Replacement of low stockade and 4' iron fence with 6' stockade.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/20/75	
193	1639 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Beau Bogan, Inc.	Erect sign on building, 2'8" x 2'6".
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Board requests clarification as to how proposed sign, existing sign, and proposed awning for this building relate to each other. Suggest simplification of sign. 6/20/75	
194	1226 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Roy Rogers Restaurant	Install non-illuminated signs (resubmission refer to OG 75-173).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/20/75	
195	1250 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Mr. Ed Cameron	Fabricate and install one sign 16" x 10', brown background, gold script letters, plastic, 12" high, 1/8" thick.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/20/75	
196	1401 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Peoples Drug Stores, Inc.	Alter entrance doors on Wisconsin Avenue and O Street as per plan.
ACTION:	Issue permit provided transom windows are changed to reflect new design. 6/20/75	
197	3239 M Street, N.W. Robert Shindler	Install one new 70 1/2" x 14 1/2" sign flat against wall.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/20/75	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

25 June, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-198	2901 M Street, N.W. National Permanent Federal Savings & Loan Association	Install painted wood panel sign with outrigger lights on 29th & M.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy of smaller, non-illuminated sign on 29th Street side. Suggest free-standing pin-mounted letters of approximate size and style shown in this submission. No objection to lights on M Street side, provided a soft level of illumination is provided. 6/20/75

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

25 June, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
SL 75-		
36	4001 17th Street, N.W. St. John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Church	Alteration and repair of existing building, new roof.
ACTION:	Approved as preliminary design. Request submission of working drawings and material samples for review prior to issuance of building permit. 5/21/75	
37	600 Indiana Avenue, N.W. District of Columbia Government	Rental of public space for parking of motor vehicles.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Application to park on the right-of-way of a major vista of the Pennsylvania Avenue Historic District is unsuitable. Large-scale public plans have been approved by the D.C. Government and Congress for the preservation and visual upgrading of this area. It should be noted that adjacent properties are being renovated at private expense in conformance with approved plans. 5/29/75	
38	315 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. William J. Kavadias	Replace existing windows and doors.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend accurate restoration. Character of proposed work is wholly unsuited to these architecturally significant 19th Century commercial structures. Wooden walk, and shop fronts are excellent and rare examples of vernacular Victorian architecture. Recommend conference with Commission of Fine Arts staff. 5/29/75	
39	2742 Jenifer Street, N.W. Covell Builders, Inc.	Erect new single family dwelling.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Submit brick and asphalt shingle samples for approval before construction. 6/20/75	
40	2746 Jenifer Street, N.W. Covell Builders, Inc.	Erect new single family dwelling.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Submit brick and asphalt shingle samples for approval before construction. 6/20/75	